

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TANAKA et al.

Art Unit: 2162

Application No.: 09/209,454

Examiner: D. Lastra

Filed: December 11, 1998

For: SYSTEM FOR
SELLING CONTACT
LENS



**CLAIMS PENDING AFTER AMENDMENT IN
RESPONSE TO THE OFFICIAL ACTION MAILED FEBRUARY 7, 2001**

1. A contact lens selling system comprising:

a communication network; and

a plurality of first, second, and third information processing apparatuses connected to each other through the communication network each of the first, second, and third information processing apparatuses having calculation processing means, storage means, and transmitting/receiving means, each of the first information processing apparatuses being located at a respective supplier of contact lenses and contact lens articles, each of the second information processing apparatuses being accessible to at least one contact lens user, and each of the third information processing apparatuses being located at respective ophthalmic examination departments, wherein

the transmitting/receiving means of each of the first information processing apparatuses includes

means for transferring at least one of a registration number, an identification of an ophthalmology examination department, a contact lens price, contact lens care articles price, and a deadline for price payment from the respective first information processing apparatus to the second information processing apparatuses, and

means for transferring at least one of a registration number, name, age, sex, and a password from the respective first information processing apparatus to the third information processing apparatuses,

the transmitting/receiving means of each of the second information processing apparatuses includes means for transferring an application for contract from each of the second information processing apparatuses to each of the first information processing apparatuses, and

the transmitting/receiving means of the third information processing apparatuses includes means for transferring at least one of a registration number, name, age, sex, a selling date, contact lens information, and eyeball diagnosis information from the respective third information processing apparatus only to the first information processing apparatuses.

2. The contact lens selling system of Claim 1, wherein each of the information processing apparatuses includes one of a cathode ray tube and a liquid crystal display.

3. The contact lens selling system of Claim 1, wherein each of the information processing apparatuses includes one of a key board, a scanner, a mouse, and a bar code reader.

4. The contact lens selling system of Claim 1, wherein the storing means comprises a read-only memory and a random access memory.

5. The contact lens selling of Claim 1, wherein the transmitting/receiving means is a modem.

6. A contact lens selling system comprising:
a network;
a plurality of processing apparatuses connected through the communication network and divided into a first group and a second group, the first group comprising information processing apparatuses installed in facilities of contact lens sellers, the

second group comprising information processing apparatuses installed in ophthalmology examining departments and storing data including at least one of name, age, sex, date of diagnosis, eyeball diagnosis of a contact lens user, contact lens information, and contact lens selling date, obtained from diagnosis of the contact lens user in the ophthalmology examining department where the respective information processing apparatus included in the second group is installed, and transmitting the data through the communication network to the information processing apparatuses included in the first group; and

portable recording media, the plurality of information processing apparatuses having at least one of means for writing data in the portable recording media, means for reading data from the portable recording media, calculation processing means, storing means, and transmitting/receiving means, the information processing apparatuses included in the first group processing and controlling the data, determining a registration number based on the data, recording at least one of the data and the registration number in only one of the portable recording media for a respective contact lens user, the medium having a password for the respective contact lens user, determining an exchange time for contact lens based on date of diagnosis, the contact lens selling date, and kind of contact lens, at least the exchange time for the contact lens being supplied to a contact lens user upon supplying of a contact lens.

7. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein only the information processing apparatuses included in the second group have means of correcting the eyeball diagnosis information.

8. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein the contact lens user can write information in the portable recording media.

9. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein each of the portable recording media has a respective password.

10. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein the plurality of information processing apparatuses can read data from all of the portable recording media and write the data in all of the portable recording media.

11. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein each of the information processing apparatuses includes one of a cathode ray tube and a liquid crystal display.

12. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein each of the information processing apparatuses includes one of a key board, a scanner, a mouse, and a bar code reader.

13. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein the storing means comprises a read-only memory and a random access memory.

14. The contact lens selling system of Claim 6, wherein the transmitting/receiving means is a modem.